

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**HB 3471 – SB 3700**

April 3, 2012

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (016099):** Adds a new section to the original bill which amends Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-5-101(f) to provide that no person defeated in a primary election or party caucus shall qualify as an independent for the general election and no candidate in a party primary election or party caucus may appear on the ballot in a general election as the nominee of a different political party or as an independent. Grants a recognized minor political party the option to nominate all offices by primary or by rules of the party. If the minor party seeks to nominate by primary election, the petition for recognition must be filed by the qualifying deadline. If they nominate by any other means, the petition for recognition must be filed 90 days prior to the general election.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- Recognized minor parties will have the option to select nominees by primary or by a caucus or convention. Removes the requirement that minor parties have a primary.
- If minor parties opt to nominate all offices by primary, there will be no additional cost since this will be held during a regularly scheduled local primary. Any cost to add these nominees to the ballot will be not significant.
- No fiscal impact on state or local government for a minor party to select nominees by party caucus or convention.

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- Establishing filing deadlines and clarifying the procedures to be used for those filing as a recognized minor party can be accomplished within existing resources without additional personnel or a reduction in other budget items.
- Prohibiting persons defeated in a primary election or party caucus from qualifying as an independent in a general election will have no fiscal impact on state or local government.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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